

Reply to Office Action dated May 12, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 7-11, 17-19 and 21-27 are pending. Claims 1, 7, 17-19 and 21-27 are allowed. Claims 8-11 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants reserve the right to pursue canceled subject matter in divisional and/or continuation applications.

Claims 8-11 were objected to by the Patent Office under 37 CFR 1.75 as allegedly being substantially duplicative of claim 7. In an effort to expedite prosecution, Applicants have canceled claims 8-11. With the cancellation of these claims, Applicants believe the Patent Office's objection is now moot. In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request that this objection be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance.

If the Patent Office believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 925-472-5014.

Respectfully submitted,



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